



Parish Week

*One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God.*

Sunday, 28 February 2021

Saturday, 27 Feb.

- 8.00 am Mass: Int. Thanksgiving (San Juan)
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Nilda, Clarence & Victoria Ortiz (Marie Ong)

SUNDAY, 28 FEB. / LENT 2-B

- Homilist: Fr. Elias Chachati
- 2nd Collection: Maintenance

- 9.00 am Mass: † Teopisto Ibanez (Jocelyn)
- 10.30 am Mass: Int. Esme D'Mello (friends)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Beatriz Remedios (family)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo

Monday 1 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Ann Stafford (Alice Larkin)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Dave & Bonnie Weir (Paul Cheng)
- 7.40 pm Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent meeting

Tuesday, 2 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Alice Whalen (Nellie & Martin families)
- 7.00 pm Mass: Int. Health of Corrales family (Gina Arroyo)

Wednesday, 3 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Teresita Corrales (Gina Arroyo)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Xavier Turiano (Gina Arroyo)

Thursday, 4 Mar. / St. Casimir of Poland

- 8.00 am Mass: † Francis Jegasothy (Josephine)
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Paul Vaz (Elizabeth)

Friday, 5 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Joanne Scala (Maria Di Michele)
- 6.00 pm Holy Hour
- 7.00 pm Mass: † Adiето Martelino (Cristeta Villanueva)
- 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross (Altar Servers)

Saturday, 6 Mar.

- 8.00 am Mass: † Francisco Di Michele (family)
- 10.00 am RCIC class for Youth initiation
- 5.00 pm Mass: † Gabriel & Francis Andreas (Charles)

SUNDAY, 7 MAR. / LENT 3-B

- Homilist: Deacon Ramon Villardo

- 9.00 am Mass: † Lydia Marquez (family)
- 10.30 am Mass: † Ernesto & Lydia Rodas (family)
- 12.00 pm Mass: † Sixto Maramot Sr. (Maura)
- 1.30 pm Infant Baptism
- 7.00 pm Mass: Pro Populo



Focus on the Word

2nd Sunday of Lent, Year B

Genesis 22.1-18; Romans 8.31-37; Mark 9.2-10

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. Amen

Pray for the Deceased

Anthony D'Souza, Elizabeth Moniz

The 62 victims of the airplane crash in the Java Sea



Lenten Masses

During Lent, there will be an evening Mass at 7.00 pm Monday to Friday, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday.

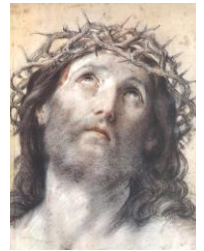
Stations of the Cross

Each Friday during Lent, the *Stations of the Cross* will be prayed congregationally after the 7.00 pm Mass.

For private use, the parish *Stations of the Cross* booklet may be obtained at the office for \$2.

The remaining Facilitators for 2021 will be:

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|-------|----|----------------------------------|
| March | 5 | Altar Servers |
| | 12 | St. Vincent de Paul |
| | 19 | Greeters & Eucharistic Ministers |
| | 26 | Knights of Columbus |
| April | 2 | Lectors |



Calling all Palms

Bring in your *old blessed palms* by the Sunday before Holy Week (21 March). Kindly place them in the *palm box* in the Vestibule.

COMING UP

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- 7 Mar. Infant Baptism (1.30 pm)
- 16 Mar. **PH500:** Opening Liturgy of the 500th Anniversary of Christianity in the Philippines (O.L. Assumption Church)

- 28 Mar. **Palm Sunday:** *Holy Week* begins
- 1 Apr. **Holy Thursday:** *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper;*
- Adoration until midnight
- 2 Apr. **Good Friday:** *The Passion of Our Lord*
- 4 Apr. **Easter Sunday:** *Resurrection of Our Lord;*
2 Collections: (a) *Offertory;* (b) *Easter*

- 5 Apr. Infant Baptism Parent/Godparent Meeting (7:40 pm)
- 10 Apr. Wedding: Molinaro – Chakraborty (1:00 pm)
- 18 Apr. *ShareLife* Sunday

Website stmariagoretti.archtoronto.org

No Public Masses: During the current pandemic lockdown, there are no public Masses. Our Church is open for personal prayer every day from 8 am to 6 pm. The *Mass Intentions* will all be honoured by the Priests in their private Masses.



Sacramental Preparation

All families of the Candidates for 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation have been eagerly waiting for news as to how the preparation process would proceed. The pandemic has created a challenging situation. We will continue to monitor the situation in order to determine what can be done to move forward on these extremely important events in the lives of our Youth.

March: principal feast days

The month of March has some significant feast days.

- 7 Saints Perpetua and Felicity, *mothers and martyrs*
- 14 St. Matilda of Ringelheim, *Queen of Germany*
- 15 St. Louise de Marillac, *founder of the Daughters of Charity*
- 16 St. Hilary, *bishop of Aquileia, martyr*
- 17 St. Patrick, *patron of Ireland*
- 18 St. Joseph of Arimathea
- 19 St. Joseph, *foster father of Jesus and husband of Mary*
- 23 St. Toribio Alfonso de Mongrovejo, *missionary to Peru*
- 25 Annunciation of the Lord *to the Blessed Virgin Mary*
- 26 St. Margaret Clitherow, *protector of persecuted Priests*

☺ Your sabbath smile



“But the weather’s great the rest of the week.”

Easter Flowers

Parishioners are invited to sponsor this year’s display of EASTER FLOWERS in our Sanctuary. Envelopes are available at the office.



Spiritual Reflection

The lives of each of us are designed by the Lord in a beautiful way to reflect His glory, if we only entrust Him with our will. If we try to run our own life without His grace, it will be a mess. If we open our lives to the Lord in trust, we will know His Divine Mercy.

Stewardship

2020 Receipts, 2021 Envelopes

The Charitable Tax Receipts for all recorded donations during 2020 are in the Vestibule. They may be picked up after Mass.

Many thanks to all our faithful parishioners for your generous support of our wonderful parish through your weekly stewardship! This is an act of honour to God, our Creator.

Parishioners are invited to pick up their 2021 Sunday Offertory Envelopes in the Vestibule after Mass. They are for registered parishioners only; if you are new to the parish and have not yet registered, *welcome to our neighbourhood!* Go to the Office window, introduce yourself, and complete a registration form. Phone ahead to confirm access to the Office during the pandemic.

Ensure that you have your own box: *the number on the label and on the envelopes* must be identical. If you notice any discrepancy, advise the parish office right away. If you use someone else’s envelopes, your donation would be credited to the other person.

Please write the amount of your *donation* in the space on the front of your envelopes. (If you do not, our financial advisors must stop to do so, and this *really* slows down the recording process.)

Tithing

Whether there is a crisis or not, we have to make difference, for our God is Great. Determine through your faith that the shadow of the Almighty will be upon you. Even if work is slow and prosperity is limited, things will be different because you will act by faith. Every Sunday, every Day of the Lord, is a time of consecration for tithers. Present your tithe to the Almighty along with your thanksgiving for all blessings received. That way, you will honour God and ensure the secure ministry of the Church.

The Lord of hosts has sworn, “As I have designed, so shall it be; and as I have planned, so shall it come to pass.” - *Isaiah 14:24*

Therefore the Lord the God of Israel declares, “I promised that your family and the family of your ancestor should go in and out before me forever;” but now the Lord declares, “Far be it from me; for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be treated with contempt.” - *1 Samuel 2:30*

What is the real purpose of the tithe? It serves the practical function of supporting vital church ministries. However the deeper purpose of the tithe is to *learn to fear the Lord*. God has promised to give wisdom and blessing to those who fear Him. “Set aside a tithe of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly from the field. In the presence of the Lord your God, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, your wine, and your oil as well as the firstlings of your herd and flock, so that you may learn to fear the Lord our God always.” (Deuteronomy 14:22-23)



Father Ruben Perez Ayala, *r.i.p.*

A young priest ordained only six months ago was among the casualties of an explosion at a parish center in Madrid. The Archdiocese of Madrid confirmed on 21 Jan. that **Father Ruben Perez Ayala**, a priest at the Church of Our Lady of La Paloma, died in the early hours of the morning due to internal hemorrhaging he suffered after the blast. The Archdiocese also shared an interview Father Perez gave before his Priestly ordination in June, in which he said that his experience at the seminary taught him that “happiness is not in living for oneself, but in giving oneself to others.”

According to the Spanish newspaper *El Pais*, Father Perez’ death brought the death toll from the explosion to four. **David Santos Munoz**, 35, an electrician, died in the explosion on 20 January after he was called in to inspect the boiler room because of a strong smell of gas. Munoz, a married father of four, was an active member of the parish. Two unnamed men also died, and 10 people were injured.

Cardinal Carlos Osoro Sierra of Madrid, who rushed to the parish shortly after the explosion, mourned the death of Father Perez in a message on his Twitter account:

“The young Priest, Fr. Ruben Perez Ayala, who I ordained just six months ago, died this evening. I am grateful for his life of dedication to Christ and his Church. I pray for his family. I also pray for those who died after the explosion at La Paloma and for all those affected.”

According to the Archdiocese, the Parish center housed the priests’ apartments, as well as Parish and local Caritas offices. In a *WhatsApp* message to Catholic News Service on 21 January, **Father Gabriel Benedicto**, pastor of Our Lady of La Paloma, said, “I am well. It’s been a long day, but God helps us.” **Cardinal Pietro Parolin**, Vatican Secretary of State, conveyed **Pope Francis’** “closeness and affection” in a statement released by the Vatican. The Pope “raises prayers to the Lord and commends to his mercy especially the eternal rest of the victims, as well as the injured and their families,” Cardinal Parolin wrote. Spanish Prime Minister **Pedro Sanchez** said he expressed his “support and solidarity” in a phone call with Madrid Mayor **Jose Luis Martinez-Almeida**.

“We send our condolences and affection to the families of the dead and the wounded,” he tweeted. Mayor Martinez-Almeida, who frequently updated reports about the explosion on his Twitter account, also expressed condolences to the victims’ families. “No matter what happens, the people of Madrid are always there to help, no matter how difficult the circumstances,” he tweeted.



Catholic Shepherds who have died of Covid-19, r.i.p.

In one day, 13 January 2021, the Catholic Church lost four leaders to COVID-19. A fifth bishop died a day later. In all, ten bishops died between 8 and 14 January.

Brazilian Cardinal Eusebio Scheid, 88, died in the interior of São Paulo state Jan. 13, after only a few days in the hospital with COVID-19.

Across the Atlantic, in Scotland, **Archbishop Philip Tartaglia** of Glasgow, 70, died at his home, where he was self-isolating after testing positive for COVID-19 shortly after Christmas.

In Zambia, **Bishop Moses Hamungole** of Monze died at Levy Mwanawasa Hospital in the capital, Lusaka, in a dedicated unit for COVID-19 patients.

A day later, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland announced that **Bishop Emeritus Vincent Logan** of Dunkeld, 79, had also died of complications related to COVID-19.

“Coming only a day after the death in Glasgow of Archbishop Philip Tartaglia,” the retired Bishop’s death “marks this week as one of loss and mourning for the Catholic Church in Scotland,” said **Bishop Hugh Gilbert** of Aberdeen, the Conference President.

CARDINAL SCHEID (88), born in Santa Catarina state in 1932, was ordained in July 1960 and served in the archdioceses of Florianópolis and Rio de Janeiro before retiring in 2009. **St. John Paul II** elevated him to Cardinal in 2003. Known for his candor, Cardinal Scheid will be remembered for the controversy with then-President **Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva** during the 2005 conclave that elected **Pope Benedict XVI**. After Pope John Paul II’s death, Lula da Silva organized a delegation to fly to the Vatican and expressed his desire that the new pope be Brazilian. At the time, **Cardinal Cláudio Hummes** was seen as one of the favorites for the Papacy. Cardinal Scheid accused Lula of wanting to exploit the episode politically and said that Lula “was not *Catholic*, he was *chaotic*,” and that “he (Lula) and the Holy Spirit did not get along well.”

ARCHBISHOP TARTAGLIA (70), ordained a Priest in 1975, had served as leader of Scotland’s largest Catholic community since 2012. “It is with the greatest sorrow that we announce the death of our Archbishop,” read the statement of the Archdiocese of Glasgow. “He was a leading opponent of proposals to legalize same-sex marriage in Scotland and also criticized ministers over anti-bigotry legislation,” the statement said.

BISHOP HAMUNGOLE (53), before he was chosen to lead the Diocese of Monze in May 2014, had been the head of *Vatican Radio*’s English Africa and Kiswahili Service in Rome, Italy. He was ordained a Priest in August 1994 and worked in media-related ministries until his episcopal ordination.

“BISHOP VINCENT LOGAN was dedicated and energetic,” wrote Bishop Hugh Gilbert. “His episcopal ordination in 1981 at the age of 39 made him one of the youngest bishops in the world and gave him an energy and zeal in all he did. His commitment to Catholic Education was well known and his robust defence of it will be long remembered.”

In Durban, South Africa, **Archbishop Abel Gubuza**, the coadjutor bishop for **Cardinal Wilfried Napier**, died on 17 January. Cardinal Napier said, “Archbishop Gubuza had not been with us in Durban long – just short of two years – but in that time we came to recognize him as a gentle, caring and warm-hearted pastor. Through his gentleness, caring and warmth, he made an immediate impact on everyone who was privileged to make his acquaintance. That’s an added reason why his passing is such a tremendous loss to us and the entire Church in Southern Africa.”

The first prelate to die during the week was **Bishop Cástor Oswaldo Azuaje Pérez**, (69), from Trujillo, Venezuela. He was the first Venezuelan bishop to die of COVID-19, though at least eight priests and several religious sisters have died from the virus in the country.

Bishop Luis Adriano Piedrahita Sandoval (74) of Santa Marta, Colombia, died on 11 January. Hospitalized since 23 December, he is the first Colombian bishop to die of COVID-19, and did so as a second wave surges in the country, with an average daily death toll of 400, which led the government of **Ivan Duque** to impose new restrictions.

The other prelates who died in the week of 8-14 Jan.:

Bishop Adam Dyczkowski (88), Bishop Emeritus of Zielona Góra-Gorzów diocese, Poland; he died on 10 Jan.; and **Bishop Florentin Crihalmeanu** (61) of the Greek-Catholic Eparchy of Cluj-Gherla in Romania, who died on 12 Jan.

On 12 Jan, the Archdiocese of Mexico released a statement asking for prayers for its retired **Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera** (78) who was admitted to ICU with COVID-19. An estimated 140,000 have died in Mexico due to this disease, including close to 100 Priests, the latest being **Fr. José Guadalupe Sanguino Fuentes** (88) and **Fr. Valentín Ramírez Tlaque** (68), from the Archdiocese of Puebla.



Michelle accompanies her fiancé **Jesse Watson** as he collects his newly-issued Baptism certificate in preparation for their Wedding later this year at St. Thomas More Church. Fr. Edwin provided the *Engagement Blessing* in front of our Altar.





Members of the **Rajanayagam** family gather to offer the *Memorial Prayers* for their dear brother **Albert Jesuthasan**, 23 January 1949 – 18 January 2021.







24 Jan.: **Xavier & Faith Ramos**, with children **Xandrina, Xaira** and **Miggy** spend some prayer time in the Church.

